

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL
COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Photograph



Locus Map



Recorded by: Lara Kritzer, JM Goldson
community preservation + planning

Organization: Hanson Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): June 2018

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form
Number

54-0-7-0

Hanover

HNS.217

Town/City: Hanson

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Address: 426 Indian Head Street

Historic Name: Alden and Naomi Beals House

Uses: Present: Single-Family Dwelling

Original: Single-Family Dwelling

Date of Construction: ca.1800-1825

Source: White's History, Plan No. 6, Page 118

Style/Form: Altered/Cape

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Stone

Wall/Trim: Wood Shingle/Wood

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Two-story barn and two-car garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*): Additions to the north and south facades, dormers added to the east and west facades, entrance moved to a projecting entry porch on the west façade, and aluminum replacement windows.

Condition: Fair

Moved: no ☐ yes ☒ **Date:** 1853

Acres: 0.7 Acres

Setting: Located on one of Hanson's main thoroughfares in an area of predominantly single-family homes ranging from early eighteenth century farmhouses to early twentieth century developments on substantial lots which includes grass lawns, numerous mature trees, bushes, and other vegetation.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

HANSON

426

Indian Head Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

HNS.217

☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The one-and-a-half story Cape style house has an asphalt shingled gable roof with low one-story additions to each gable-end and a long cross-gable addition to its east façade. Both the east and west roof slopes have been altered with large shed-roofed dormers and the front entrance of the building has been moved to a small projecting entry at the center of the west façade. The house is wood shingle sided with wood trim and corner boards and one-over-one aluminum replacement windows throughout. Interestingly, the gable-end and rear façade of the original house are painted shingles, while the front façade and additions are unpainted. A tall, wide rectangular brick chimney with a projecting stone top is located at the center of the west roof slope just below the roof ridge. A second tall and narrow brick chimney is located at the intersection of the original Cape house and the cross-gable addition to the east façade.

The house sits above the street behind a large stone retaining wall that runs along the sidewalk and faces west towards Indian Head Street. The eaves of the gable roof come down low over the façade, ending in narrow wood eaves over a wide cornice board. While the west façade has been heavily altered, it has retained its symmetrical façade with two double hung windows located to either side of the center entrance. Its gable-end roof projects out from the main roof of the house, creating an unusually tall entry. The roof has narrow eaves that project out slightly around the pediment, which is located well above the door below. The vertical wood board door has large wrought iron hinges and is surrounded by narrow four-paned sidelights over low wood panels that are set into the entry's west facade. The entry is not wide and has no windows or detailing on its side facades. On the west slope of the roof above, two long, low shed dormers extend from just below the roof ridge to just short of the west façade. Each dormer has two pairs of narrow rectangular casement windows in their west façades.

The gable roof of the house ends flush with the gable-ends and has a narrow band of wood trim outlining the outer edges of the pediment with a single double hung window at its center. On the north façade, a low hip roofed, one-story addition covers the entire first floor of the façade. The addition is set in only slightly from the corners of the gable-end, with narrow overhanging eaves on all three sides. The west façade of the addition has a French door at its center behind a wooden screen door and is flanked on each side by two-over-one wood double hung windows. Dense vegetation surrounding the north and east facades of the addition, obscuring the rest of its features from view. On the south façade, the one story addition is narrower but longer. The addition extends only over the southeast corner of the façade, leaving room for a single double hung window on the first floor in the southwest corner of the gable-end. The addition has a low gable roof with a third entrance door and small double hung window on its west façade. This door also has a wood screen door and a narrow five pane transom above. A set of three double hung windows is located on the south façade of the addition, where the cement foundation of the addition is visible in the southwest corner. The east façade addition is visible behind this addition and is primarily a long screen porch supported by square wood posts under a gable roof. A set of wood steps with wood railings and square balusters leads from the porch to the asphalt paved driveway to the south of the house. The porch is visible from Katydid Lane to the north of the property as well. The east façade of the main house is a full two-stories in height, the east roof slope having been raised at the center, with only a narrow band of its original slope on either side. The new façade has three double hung windows on each floor.

Continuation sheet 2

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

HANSON

426

Indian Head Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

HNS.217

To the east of the house is a large two-story barn attached to a two-car garage. A low gable roofed addition connects the barn in the northeast corner of the site to the later garage in the southeast corner. The garage has two solid metal overhead garage doors in its west façade and a large, arched opening in the connector provides access through the structure. The barn has a long one-story shed roofed addition along its west façade which joins the connector. While the garage is shingle sided, both the barn and the connecting addition are finished in vertical wood board. Small double hung windows are visible in the gable-ends of the barn, and vertical wood barn doors are located on its north façade.

The house sits above the street on the corner of Indian Head Street and Katydid Lane. The east side of the property has a tall stone retaining wall running from the northwest corner of the property to the driveway at the south of the house where it turns east along the driveway and has a planting bed along its top. Tall, mature trees are located to the north, east, and south of the house, with a small grass lawn immediately surrounding the house.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

According to White's History of Hanson, this house originally stood on Whitman Street in front of the present No. 6 School House (shown in White's History's Plan 3, No. E). At that time, it was owned and occupied by Thomas Pratt(1789-1869), a Pembroke born carpenter and the grandfather of Lucius W. Arnold. White explains that the house was sold by Mr. Pratt in 1853 and moved to its present location by Alden Beal(1805-1877). However, the 1830 Smith Plan shows only the No. 6 School House on Whitman Street and an existing house owned by Alden Beal on Indian Head Street, suggesting that the Whitman Street house was either moved earlier than 1853 or replaced an earlier house on the site. If the former, then it is likely that the house was moved when Beal married Naomi Thompson in 1829. Alden Beal was a farmer who occupied the house for many years, appearing on both the 1830 Smith Plan and the 1856 Walling Map. After his death on 1877 at age 71, Naomi continued to live in the house until her death in 1893. "Mrs. A. Beal" is shown on the 1879 Walker Atlas.

In 1895, Alden and Naomi's son, Henry A. Beal, sold the home to Lot and Sarah Phillips who later sold the home to Reuben S. Hoyt.¹ R. S. Hoyt is shown on the 1903 Richards Atlas at which time there were three buildings on the property and the main house had already achieved its L-shaped footprint. There is also a cranberry bog to the south of the house nestled between Hoyt's property and F.W. (Friend White) Howland's property. The bog most likely belonged to Howland, who is listed as a farmer on the 1910 census. Reuben, a piano tuner, lived there with his wife, Mabel (Dennett) whom he married in 1891. In 1911, Hoyt sold the property to Samuel P. Wood.²

The property late came into the hands of Lora Langley, who became Lora Wright after marrying Frank Wright in 1912, and who lived there during the lifetime of Joseph White, compiler of White's *History of Hanson*. In 1917, Lora and Frank Wright sold the property to Maude H. Rose, an unmarried woman from Worcester.³ Prior to Maude's marriage in 1924, she sold the home to Walter S. and Frances Brewer of Peaks Island, Maine. Four years later, he sold the property to Edith C. Taylor, wife of Dixon C. Taylor. Edith had moved out to San Diego, CA when she sold the house in 1946 to Adeline Trafton and Anne V. Heikel, two unwed women in their late thirties. The 1940 U.S. Census shows that Anne, the daughter of Finish immigrants, was a student nurse at

¹ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 764, Page 234

² Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1080, Page 43

³ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1282, Page 309

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

HANSON

426

Indian Head Street

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	HNS.217
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Newtown Hospital while Adeline was an x-ray specialist still living with her parents in Hanover. In 1951, the two women sold the home to Thomas F. and Elizabeth Horan.⁴

After Thomas' death in June 1978, Elizabeth Horan sold the home to George S. (1954-2010) and Wendy J. (nee Leff) Pease who lived there until 1987.⁵ Current owners David and Maureen (nee Swales) Yalenezian, purchased the home in 1989 from Roland Ciaramitaro and Carey Quinn.⁶

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⁴ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 2167, Page 290

⁵ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 4729, Page 234; Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 7617, Page 22

⁶ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 9146, Page 231

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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